(b) LPG distributorships are opened at differnt locations subject to product availability, economic viability, etc. under various Marketing Plans.

Extension of HBJ Pipeline

1022. SHRI AJIT P. K. JOGI: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the HBJ pipeline has been completed and is working at its full capacity;

(b) if not, what are the reasons therefor;

(c) whether an extension and increase of capacity was foreseen in the year 1992;

(d) if so, the details thereof and the reasons for not carrying out the extension; and

(e) whether it is a fact that, with regard to return on investment, the HBJ pipeline is a success?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): (a) to (e) The HBJ Pipeline is being operated at about 70% of its capacity.

No investment decision has been taken regarding upgradation of HBJ Pipeline capacity.

The pipeline has been earning profits but not to the extent envsaged in the Feasibility Report based on 100% capacity utilisation.

Refining of Crude by Madras Refinery

1023. SHRI M. VINCENT: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the present stage of expanding the Madras Refineries Limited to double its crude refining capacity;

(b) what is the toal estimate of the expansion scheme;

(c) whether the entire finance required is likely to be met by the public enterprise;

(d) whether here is any foreign agency's paricipation in the expansion scheme; and

(e) the Indian concerns which have been entrusted with the work of fabricating most of the refinery and other standards and machinery for the expansion alongwith the details thereof with the value of such work?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): (a) Presently, MRL is only increasing its refining capacity from 5.6 MTPA to 6.5 MTPA. This is expected to be completed by December, 1992.

(b) and (c) The estimated cost of expansion project is approximately Rs. 38.5 crores, which will be met by internal resources and borrowings.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Design and engineering has been done by M/s Engineers India Ltd. Orders for major equipments have been placed as follows:—

	Vendor	Approx. Valuc
1. Heat Exchangers .	BHPV	Rs. 3 crores.
2. Furnaces . . .	Different suppliers for different components	Rs. 15 crores.
3. Pumps . . .	BPCL, KSB Pumps	Rs. 1 crore.
4. Column Internals .	Topack Industries Bombay	Rs. 3 crores.